

Message

What you need to know to start your day.

From: Bloomberg Environment
[bloomberg@bna.com]
Sent: 12/11/2017 12:01:56 PM
To: Duffy, Rick
[Duffy.Rick@epa.gov]
Subject: First Move: Macron Picks Up Climate Banner • Tax Plan's 'Devastating' Brownfields Impact?

Bloomberg
Environment

Macron Picks Up Climate Banner • Tax Plan's 'Devastating' Brownfields Impact?

By Chuck McCutcheon

Tuesday marks the second anniversary of the Paris Agreement on climate change. It's also the day that French President Emmanuel Macron seeks to give the deal a push, despite President Donald Trump's decision to yank the U.S. out of the pact.

Macron is hosting the One Climate Summit, a Tuesday event aimed at exploring how the private and private sectors can somehow find money to steer countries away from fossil fuels toward clean-energy sources.



French President Emmanuel Macron delivers a speech last month.
Photographer: Ludovic Marin/AFP/Getty Images

Trump certainly won't be at the summit, but environmental and some industry groups will be represented. They include Nat Keohane, the Environmental

Defense Fund's vice president of global climate; Leo Martinez-Diaz, who heads the World Resources Institute's Finance Center; and Dirk Forrister, who heads the International Emissions Trading Association.

Climate analysts tell [Dean Scott](#) they also expect a big turnout from African countries, island nations, and other developing countries.

Macron will be joined by World Bank Group President Jim Yong Kim; expect the World Bank and other multilateral banks to unveil new financing pledges for low-carbon projects.

The pending Republican tax overhaul is making the brownfields world nervous.

At last week's National Brownfields Training Conference in Pittsburgh, [Sylvia Carignan](#) learned, policy analysts said the tax bills could make cleaning up and reusing former commercial and industrial properties less attractive to investors and developers.

Some incentives that could sweeten the deal for a potential brownfield investor, such as tax credits for investing in new markets, historic rehabilitation, and renewable energy, face cuts in either the House or Senate versions of the bills.

If a conference committee of House and Senate members deletes all the incentives, the result "could be devastating for brownfield finance," Charlie Bartsch, former adviser to the assistant administrator for EPA's Office of Land and Emergency Management, said at the conference.

OTHER STORIES WE'RE COVERING

- Republicans on the House science committee [have threatened](#) to look into cutting funding to the International Agency for Research on Cancer, a World Health Organization organization that assesses the cancer-causing potential of various products and activities. In 2015, IARC found that glyphosate, the main ingredient in Monsanto's Roundup herbicide, is a "probable" carcinogen. But, [Tiffany Stecker](#) notes, the science panel isn't the Appropriations Committee—the one that officially controls the purse strings—and none of its members sits on Appropriations.
- So many chemicals; so little time: That's the challenge the EPA [will discuss](#) at a Monday meeting as it asks for advice on how it should sort through the

thousands of chemicals in commerce to pick candidates for closer scrutiny. Pat Rizzuto will cover.

- Two House energy subcommittees on Tuesday will examine fuel-economy standards and greenhouse gas emissions standards for cars and trucks. Abby Smith will cover.
- A federal appeals court in San Francisco hears arguments in a novel case filed by youth plaintiffs seeking to force the government to develop a plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. One of the judges scheduled to hear the case, Alex Kozinski, has been accused of a range of inappropriate sexual conduct and comments, the Washington Post reported.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

“It was corporate blackmail. They basically said, ‘We’re going to leave.’ “
—Steve Milloy, a policy adviser for the Heartland Institute, a group critical of climate science, lamenting American Legislative Exchange Council members’ rejection of a measure declaring that climate change is not a risk after hearing opposition from Exxon Mobil and Chevron.

THE WEEK’S EVENTS

ON THE HILL:

- **Tuesday, 10 a.m. • Permitting/Nominations** • Senate energy committee studies the permitting processes at the Interior Department and FERC for energy and resource infrastructure projects. The committee also will act on Trump nominees for the Energy Information Administration and Interior Department.
- **Tuesday, 2 p.m. • Minerals** • House Natural Resources panel looks at consequences of growing U.S. dependence on foreign minerals in manufacturing.
- **Wednesday, 10 a.m. • Nuclear** • Senate environment panel examines the Nuclear Regulatory Commission’s operations.
- **Wednesday, 10:15 a.m. • Energy** • House energy panel holds hearing on impacts and future of North American energy trade.
- **Wednesday, 2 p.m. • Solar** • House Science panel on energy holds hearing on advancing solar energy technology.
- **Thursday, 9:30 a.m. • Parks** • House Natural Resources panel discusses bill to create new Utah national park.

ELSEWHERE:

- **Monday, 8 a.m. • Energy** • Axios [sponsors discussion](#) on energy with FERC Commissioner Neil Chatterjee and New York Democratic Rep. Paul Tonko. [Rebecca Kern](#) is covering.
- **Monday, 9:30 a.m. • Atlantic Coast Pipeline** • Virginia Water Control Board [meets](#) to discuss Atlantic Coast Pipeline, one of two natural gas pipelines that have generated opposition in the state. Commissioners last week [approved permits](#) for the smaller Mountain Valley Pipeline.
- **Tuesday, 2 p.m. • Keystone XL** • Nebraska Public Service Commission [will hear](#) live-streamed arguments on motions following [last month's approval](#) of alternate route for oil pipeline.

AROUND THE WEB

- References to climate change and the EPA's use of renewable energy [have been removed](#) from several agency webpages, according to an analysis by the Environmental Data and Governance Initiative.
- The official death toll in Puerto Rico from Hurricane Maria is 62, but The New York Times analysis [suggests](#) that figure misses nearly 1,000 additional fatalities.
- College and universities situated near coastlines [are improving](#) facilities and disaster plans to address sea-level rise, but say much more needs to be done.
- A Norwegian town—the world's most northerly community—is [at risk of disappearing](#) because of melting permafrost and higher temperatures that have triggered avalanches.

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